

REMARKS

Claims 7-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6 have been canceled. Claims 7-26 have been added to more particularly point out and distinctly claim applicant's invention. No new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

The Examiner has objected to claim 1 for improper format. Applicant has canceled claim 1 and respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the objection.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipate by U.S. Patent No. 5,970,252 issued to Buxton, et al. ("Buxton"). The Examiner has rejected claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious in view of Buxton in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,872,973 issued to Mitchel et al. ("Mitchel"). The Examiner asserts that Buxton describes a uniform application programming interface of as recited in claim 1 and the join engine recited in claims 2-4. The Examiner further asserts that Mitchell describes virtual attributes as recited in claims 5 and 6.

Applicant traverses this rejection, even though applicant has submitted new claims thereby rendering these rejections moot with respect to claims 1-6. In particular, applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has not met his *prima facie* burden for presenting evidence of a motivation to combine these references. The Buxton reference describes a mechanism for changing a software component (a base component) into a template, which is distributed to another user's machine to be used transparently to change the behavior or data of a corresponding base component on the machine of the another user using OLE's aggregation mechanism. The Mitchel reference describes mechanisms for dynamic binding of object class interfaces. There is no suggestion to combine the references as the Examiner has done.

New claims 7-26 recite matter that is described in applicant's Figures 1-6 and corresponding text. New claims 7-20 recite aspects nowhere found in Buxton or in Mitchell, alone or in combination. These claims are directed to methods, computer program products, and software tools used, for example, in conjunction with a join engine for a relational database as described in applicant's specification.

In particular, independent claim 1 and, hence, claims 2-14 by virtue of their dependencies, recite a method comprising, amongst other acts, “transparently and automatically causing the stored data in the corresponding plurality of normalized relational database tables to be adjusted..., thereby automatically performing the indicated operation on underlying data that corresponds to the logical view.” Independent claim 15 and, hence, dependent claims 16-17 by virtue of their dependencies, recite “a computer readable memory medium containing content that...transparently and automatically causing the stored data in the corresponding plurality of normalized relational database tables to be adjusted..., thereby automatically performing the indicated operation on underlying data that corresponds to the logical view.” These acts are nowhere taught, suggested, or motivated by any of the cited references.

Also, independent claim 18 and, hence, claims 19-20 by virtue of their dependencies, recite “a database join engine configured to automatically interface between at least one logical view table and a corresponding plurality of stored normalized tables of the relational database such that ... underlying stored data is automatically manipulated in the corresponding plurality of stored normalized database tables.” This aspect is nowhere taught, suggested, or motivated by any of the cited references.

New claims 21-26 also recite aspects nowhere found in Buxton or in Mitchell, alone or in combination. These claims are directed to the generation of objects that use an abstract object model as recited in the claims and as described in applicant’s specification. In particular, independent claim 21 and, hence, claims 22-26 by virtue of their dependencies, recite “instantiating code for the object that corresponds to at least one abstraction conversion tool.” This aspect is nowhere taught, suggested, or motivated by any of the cited references.

In view of the foregoing, applicant submits that claims 7-26 in this application are allowable over the cited prior art. In the event the Examiner disagrees or finds minor informalities, applicant respectfully requests a telephone interview to discuss the Examiner’s issues and to expeditiously resolve prosecution of this application. Accompanying this Amendment is an Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form in the event the Examiner does not agree that the claims are allowable over the cited references.

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Reply to Office Action dated November 10, 2004

In closing, applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter these amendments and to reconsider this application and its early allowance. The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,  
SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC



Ellen M. Bierman  
Registration No. 38,079

EMB:asl

Enclosures:

Postcard

Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form

701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6300  
Seattle, Washington 98104-7092  
Phone: (206) 622-4900  
Fax: (206) 682-6031

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